

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence
SUBJECT : Enemy Forces in Cambodia

1. In his briefing of the President yesterday the Director made the following statement:

The number of North Vietnamese and Viet Cong troops using Cambodian territory fluctuate, of course, as regiments shift back and forth across the border with South Vietnam, but the total of these units runs between 40,000 and 60,000 men.

2. The statement is incorrect and the proper numbers should be 20,000 to 40,000 men, an agreed CIA-DIA estimate which is consistent with MACV's reporting. The error results largely from a breakdown in coordination. In any event Admiral Moorer was briefed this morning by DIA on the same subject. He quickly pointed out that CIA's estimate is 40,000-60,000.

3. A good part of today has been spent in tracking down the differences in numbers and assuring DIA that we have not left the reservation. The most recent call was a request from a member of General Bennett's staff that we provide him with a statement of our estimate before his briefing of the JCS tomorrow morning.

4. If you approve the attached memorandum, I would also like to send the text of paragraph 3 to DIA as the formulation of CIA's estimate of enemy forces in Cambodia.


Deputy Director
Economic Research

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Attachment:

Memo to DCI re Estimates of
Enemy Forces in Cambodia